

PRESS RELEASE

CORINNE LEE NAMED 2023 DISTINGUISHED SENIOR AT THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLUMBUS, Ohio—Corinne K. Lee of Marysville, Ohio, has been named a 2023 Distinguished Senior at The Ohio State University College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES).

“The Distinguished Senior Award is the most prestigious undergraduate award in CFAES and honors top graduating seniors on the Ohio State Columbus campus,” said Ann Christy, CFAES professor and associate dean for academic programs. “The 25 award recipients exemplify the CFAES mission in areas such as academics and scholarship, research and innovation, service and involvement, and influence and leadership.”

Lee is a sustainable plant systems major with an agronomy specialization in the Department of Horticulture and Crop Science (HCS). She was nominated by college faculty and staff who felt that she personified the award’s attributes of academic, disciplinary, and professional excellence.

After completing her first year, she worked under associate professor Alex Lindsey in the Crop Agronomy and Physiology Research Program in what she calls her most valuable learning experience. As a student research assistant, she helped with studies on both corn and field pennycress, looking at root lodging and defoliation in corn and seed dormancy in field pennycress.

“I learned the importance of research and the impact that it can have for farmers with corn and field pennycress,” she said. “From understanding study design, randomization, applying treatments, and collecting data, I learned firsthand about the work that it takes to complete a trial before getting the end results.”

The Union County resident completed three summer internships with the first conducting pennycress research in Columbus for the IPREFER organization. She then interned with Syngenta in Janesville, Wisconsin, before her third internship with Corteva in Johnston, Iowa. Through her internships, she grew to understand data collection and more about the research process. “I learned about corn breeding and how they work to develop new lines and what data they use to select for specific genetic traits,” she said. “I learned about the scientific communications process and how to keep information factual, but also easily understandable by a wide audience.”

Lee’s extracurricular activities included officer and chair positions in the Crops and Soils Club, Alpha Zeta Partners, Agribusiness Club, and Collegiate Farm Bureau. She also served as a CFAES Ambassador.

She also worked on the Ohio State Digital Ag Team as a student research assistant. She worked with associate professor John Fulton to document, compile, and research current digital agriculture technologies and information, as well as helping to publish the popular eFields Report. “I found that working while taking classes

complimented the concepts that I was learning in class and I was able to apply them in real time. However, it was challenging to balance student organizations, work, class, family, and friends at the same time.”

According to Alex Lindsey, her principal HCS nominator, “Cori has been engaged with her courses and has taken her education experiences seriously. She has a strong academic record and was a wonderful contributor to my classes. I look forward to having Cori in the agronomy capstone course in her last semester, and am excited to see what more she will accomplish. She has been a great individual for our department, college, and university, and I will miss her when she graduates due to her positive presence.”

After graduation, Lee will work for Integrated Ag Services in Milford Center as an agronomic information advisor.

A reception for the Distinguished Senior Award recipients and their families was held on Wednesday, March 22, hosted by Ann Christy and Cathann A. Kress, vice president for agricultural administration and CFAES dean. Meet the 25 outstanding students and learn more about each via a YouTube video release at go.osu.edu/CFAES2023DSA.

“Honoring the 25 recipients for their excellence will be a highlight for us this spring. These students have excelled and most certainly will continue to thrive in their future careers,” said Christy.

In autumn 2022, there were 2,248 undergraduate students in CFAES pursuing bachelor of science degrees in 22 majors. Learn more about CFAES academic programs at go.osu.edu/B4V2.



Corinne K. Lee

MARYSVILLE, OH

SUSTAINABLE PLANT SYSTEMS - AGRONOMY

DEPARTMENT OF HORTICULTURE AND CROP SCIENCE

Photo available by sending a request to flood.13@osu.edu

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

WRITER(S)

Sherrie R. Whaley
whaley.3@osu.edu
614-582-6111

SOURCE(S):

R. Warren Flood
flood.13@osu.edu
614-247-6624